

REGISTRATION.

WHO IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER.

To-day and to-morrow the Inspectors of Election will meet at their respective polling-places in this city to complete and revise the registers of voters, and no man who has not attended in person and had his name enrolled before 9 o'clock to-morrow night will be permitted to vote on the 8th of November under any circumstances. For the first meeting of the registers the law provided that the session might continue during two days, but only in districts which at the previous annual election polled more than 400 votes. At this second meeting, however, the language of the law is positive; it provides that two days, whatever the number of voters in the district, and remain open from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Persons qualified to be registered and to vote are those who are 21 years of age, have been citizens of the United States for at least 10 days, residents of the State one year, of the county four months, of the election district at the time of offering to vote, and of the district from which the officer for whom they vote is to be chosen, and who have moved from one place to another within thirty days, he cannot vote for Assessor, but he can vote for Governor and other officers provided he has lived a year in the State and four months in the county. He should explain to the inspectors, who will write on the margin opposite his name what part of the law is competent to vote.

It is important to observe that no one can register who is not fully qualified to vote at the time of registering. The law of 1865 authorized the inspectors to inscribe on the register the name of any person who would be qualified to vote on election day, even though at the time of registering he has not fully completed the requisite period of age, citizenship, or residence. The law of 1869, however, has changed this. It expressly provides that at the meeting on the Monday and Tuesday preceding the week in which the election is to be held, the registers "shall enroll such applicants for registration as shall then be qualified." It is true that the provisions of 1869 respecting the first meeting are not directly repealed—that is to say the new law makes no direct reference to that meeting—but Sec. 25 provides that "any person who shall knowingly register or cause himself to be registered as a voter in any election district in which he is not at the time a qualified voter" shall be adjudged guilty of felony; Sec. 32 makes it a felony for any inspector to "knowingly permit any person to register his name as a voter in any election district who is not at the time a legally qualified voter." Sec. 24 repeals all other parts of acts inconsistent with this act. The temporary jury has issued a pamphlet giving instructions for registration in which this important change in the law is ignored. Challengers should therefore be watchful, as there is reason to fear that a good deal of illegal registering has already been done, and will be attempted to-day and to-morrow, especially in newly naturalized persons.

A naturalized citizen may be required to prove, "to the satisfaction of the inspectors," that he is qualified to vote. It will be best for all such persons to take their naturalization papers with them to the meeting.

No property qualification is now required of colored men. They vote on the same terms as whites.

CHALLENGE.

The Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States is instructed, by the act of Congress of July 14, 1870, to appoint for each voting precinct two citizens, one from each political party, who shall be authorized to attend at all meetings for registration, as well as at the polls on election day, and to challenge any name proposed and any vote offered. When any man is challenged, the inspectors are required to examine him under oath as to his qualifications, and if a majority of the Board are not satisfied that he is a legal voter his name or his vote cannot be received. The challengers for Supervisors as they are called have no voice in the decision of this jury; their duty at this time is only to challenge. For hindering or obstructing the polls, or for the discharge of their duty, the act of Congress provides a penalty of imprisonment for not less than one year. The Deputy Marshals, appointed under authority of the same law, are to preserve order at the polls on election day, and have nothing to do with registration.

The recent acts of Congress provide severe penalties for all manner of illegal voting, and the using, or attempting to use, fraudulent naturalization papers; but it is not necessary to recapitulate them here, as they make no change in the modes of registration.

MEETING FOR CHALLENGE.

On Thursday next the inspectors are required to meet at the usual place, and from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. to complete the purpose of allowing a public examination of the registers. Any elector of the district is entitled to examine the lists, and to point out the name of any person whom he believes not to be a qualified voter. The inspectors must mark all such names, and the persons to whom they belong shall not be permitted to vote without being challenged. Any inspector refusing to show the registers to a challenger, or refusing to show the registers to a person who has been challenged, is liable to imprisonment in the State Prison for not less than one nor more than five years.

Registration is abolished in all parts of the State except the City of New York. There is, consequently, no registration in Brooklyn.

For convenience of our readers, we republish the list of polling places, which are also the places of meeting for the Board of Registrars.

First Ward.

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